Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 119481

65
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY D/PW FASIEVERTS
APPROVED BY EA MR. MILLER
EA/VN-MR. WENZEL
S/S-O PSHANKLE
EUR/EE-MR.BRAINARD
---------- 007103
P 220204Z MAY 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION GENEVA
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 119481

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CASC, PFOR, MILI, VS
SUBJECT: AMERICAN PRISONERS AND DEAD IN SOUTH VIETNAM
REF: A) BUDAPEST 1346, B) PARIS 11852, C) GENEVA
3443, D) STATE 101914, E) STATE 113021

1. DESPITE EFFORTS REPORTED REFTELS, THERE CONTINUES TO BE NO WORD ON AMERICANS HELD PRISONER BY COMMUNIST 'FORCES IN SOUTH VIETNAM, OR ON THE BODIES OF THE TWO MARINES LEFT IN SAIGON. THERE IS STRONG PUBLIC AND CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST IN BOTH THESE SUBJECTS, AND WE ARE SERIOUSLY CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 119481

CONCERNED ABOUT THE LACK OF PROGRESS THUS FAR.

2. FOR BUDAPEST: ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, THE HUNGARIAN AMBASSADOR WAS AMONG ENVOYS WHO MET WITH PRG FOREIGN

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006

MINISTER NGUYEN THI BINH MAY 18 IN SAIGON. RECOMMEND YOU RENEW YOUR INQUIRIES ABOUT THE BAN ME THUOT CAPTIVES ON BASIS OF THIS PUBLIC INDICATION OF CONTACT BETWEEN GOH AND THE REVOLUTIONARY AUTHORITIES IN SVN.

3. IN DOING SO, WE SUGGEST YOU REFER ALSO TO THE TWO NON-MISSIONARY AMERICANS IN BAN ME THUOT GROUP: PAUL A. STRUHARIK, USAID OFFICIAL, AND JAY SCARBOROUGH, FORD FOUNDATION FELLOW. IN ADDITION TO THE SIX U.S. MISSIONARIES THERE ARE TWO CANADIAN MISSIONARIES, DR. AND MRS. LOUIS JOHNSON, AND AN AUSTRALIAN NON-MISSIONARY, BRINGING TOTAL BAN ME THUOT GROUP TO ELEVEN.

4. UNLESS YOU CONSIDER IT UNFRUITFUL, SUGGEST YOU ALSO ASK FOR GOH INTERVENTION ON SAME HUMANITARIAN "GOOD OFFICES" BASIS FOR JAMES F. LEWIS, ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER OF THE U.S. CONSULATE GENERAL AT NHA TRANG, WHO WAS CAPTURED APRIL 16 AT PHAN RANG, SOUTH VIETNAM, WHERE HE HAD GONE TO ASSIST VIETNAMESE EMPLOYEES OF THE CONSULATE. INFORMATION ON LEWIS WAS RECEIVED SUBSEQUENT TO INFO ON BAN ME THUOT GROUP. THERE HAS BEEN NO WORD ON LEWIS SINCE HIS CAPTURE, ALTHOUGH IT IS CONSIDERED CERTAIN THAT HE WAS CAPTURED, AND HE PRESUMABLY REMAINS A PRISONER.

5. FOR WARSAW: ALTHOUGH PRESS DID NOT INDICATE POLISH ENVOY WAS AMONG THOSE RECEIVED BY MME. BINH, SUGGEST YOU ALSO RENEW YOUR EFFORTS ON THIS SUBJECT WITH GOP, COVERING STRUHARIK, SCARBOROUGH, AND LEWIS AS WELL.

6. FOR PARIS: PLEASE CHECK WITH GOF TO SEE IF THEY HAVE HAD ANY RESPONSE ON THE TWO MARINES OR ON THE AMERICAN PRISONERS. IF GOF HAS HAD NO LUCK ON THE MARINES WE MAY WISH TO DISCUSS THIS WITH BUDAPEST AND WARSAW AS WELL. PLEASE ADVISE.

7. FOR GENEVA: PLEASE CHECK IF ICRC HAS OBTAINED ANY CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 119481

WORD ON U.S. PRISONERS AND OTHER AMERICANS IN SVN, AND ON THE MARINES.

8. FYI, F0LLOWING ARE COUNTRIES WHOSE AMBASSADORS REPORTEDLY MET WITH MME. BINH IN SAIGON MAY 18: SOVIET UNION, CHINA, CAMBODIA, CUBA, EAST GERMANY, HUNGARY, BULGARIA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, AND ROMANIA. INGERSOLL

CONFIDENTIAL

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 26 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMBAT CASUALTIES, DEATHS, MILITARY PERSONNEL, PRISONERS WELFARE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ellisoob
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE119481
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: D/PW FASIEVERTS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D750179-0179
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t197505103/baaaakkq.tel
Line Count: 105
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ellisoob
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 MAY 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <24 SEP 2003 by ellisoob>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> jms 971014
Subject: n/a
TAGS: CASC, MILI, PFOR, US, VS
To: BUDAPEST
WARSAW
PARIS
GENEVA INFO ALGIERS
MOSCOW
PRAGUE

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006

BUCHAREST
SOFIA
PEKING
BERLIN
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006